

153rd Session of the Tennessee Annual Conference
October 25, 2020

Supplemental Report of the Ministerial Efficiency Committee

Bishop Jeffrey N. Leath, Supervisor Susan J. Leath, General Officers, Presiding Elders, Pastors, Delegates, Friends and Visitors of the 153rd Session of the Tennessee Annual Conference of the Thirteenth Episcopal District of the African Methodist Episcopal Church. We, the members of the Tennessee Conference Ministerial Efficiency Committee, wish to make the following supplemental report:

The Rev. William Howard Smith, an itinerant elder who is transferring to the Tennessee Annual Conference—the conference of his ordination—from the East Tennessee Annual Conference, was referred to the Committee after requesting superannuated status. The Committee recommends his name be added to the roll and having faithfully served the church, his request be honored and commendations extended.

The Rev. William W. Easley, an itinerant elder who is transferring to the Tennessee Annual Conference from the Kentucky Annual Conference, was referred to the Committee to be added the roll in superannuated status. Having faithfully served the church, the Committee recommends his request be honored and commendations extended.

The Rev. Tylan Orr, a local deacon, was referred to the Committee after requesting to withdraw from the denomination. The Committee recommends his request be honored, his name be dropped from the roll, and his credentials be requested to be surrendered.

The Rev. Chris Grizzard, an itinerant elder, was referred to the Committee after requesting superannuated status. Having faithfully served the church, the Committee recommends his request be honored and commendations extended.

The Rev. Raymond Corbin, an itinerant elder, was referred to the Committee. As his wife is hospitalized, the Committee begs leave to entertain and report on this matter at a later time.

As it pertains to the concerns against the Rev. Dr. Yvette Tisdale, an itinerant elder, this Committee finds merit in them and recommends that she be temporarily suspended until such a time as further investigation and mediation can be performed by this Committee and any parties deemed necessary as it pertains to church administration, financial accounting and transparency, and amenability to the presiding elder.

Humbly submitted,

Rev. Ralph Johnson, Chair
Rev. W. Antoni Sinkfield, Vice Chair
Rev. Lisa Hammonds, Secretary
Rev. Dennis Lawson
Rev. Benessa Sweat